

PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES, NOTICES, AND RESEARCH

Publications

Latinos in Public History

Under different circumstances, the United States as we know it could be called New Spain, or Aztlan, as the Southwestern portion of it once was. A look at a map shows Hispanic, or Latino, place-names dotting the landscape from Florida to California. Coming forward to the present, there are significant Latino populations throughout the nation. There is a long-standing presence of peoples from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central, and South America in the United States, in the Southwest, the West, and in the large urban enclaves of New York, Miami, and Chicago. New Latino communities are established in areas such as Boston; Lancaster and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and Atlanta.

Despite the fact that Latinos represent 12% of the total U.S. population, the Latino presence is underrepresented in the field of public history. Crossing color lines and linguistic boundaries, Latino communities exhibit a complexity that has eluded traditional historical methodology. Folk expressions and local events play prominent roles in the shaping of community identity. Their role in creating a community identity does not correspond with the models most professionals are familiar with, although several programs and organizations across the country are addressing the matter.

The periodical of the National Council for Public History, *The Public Historian* published a special issue dedicated to Latino Public History in the fall of 2001. Edited by Antonio Ríos-

Bustamante and María Cristina García, "Latino Public History" addresses a wide range of topics concerning cultural heritage and identity.

Contributor L. Stephen Velasquez documents the Smithsonian Institution's self-evaluation and move toward representing Latinos in the programs and the staff with "The Theodore Vidal Collection: Crating Space for Latinos at the National Museum of American History." Three of the essays look at markers of cultural identity using public history programs with "Where's the 'Mexican' in 'New Mexican'?" by Sarah Horton, "Preserving Hispanic Lifeways," by John Hunner, and "Black Behind the Ears"—and Up Front Too? Dominicans in the Black Mosaic" by Ginetta E. B. Candelario.

The political nature of cultural heritage is examined in, "Our Voices in the Nation's Capital: Creating the Latino Community Heritage Center of Washington, D.C.," by Olivia Cadaval and Brian Finnegan. "Chicano Park and the Chicano Park Murals: Barrio Logan, City of San Diego, California," by Martin D. Rosen and James Fisher addresses similar concerns. "The Browncoats are Coming: Latino Public History in Boston," by Felix Matos-Rodríguez looks at "younger" Latino communities and inclusion into traditional historical accounts.

The Public Historian is published quarterly by the University of California Press. For a copy of the "Latino Public History" issue, contact Journals Division, University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, 94720. For more information, contact The Public Historian at 805/893-3667, email: lreed@descartes.ucsb.edu

Civil Rights in America: A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites

The National Historic Landmark Survey program conducted a civil rights framework study that was designed to assist the National Park Service with identifying and prioritizing those areas of history significant in illustrating the civil rights story. Authorized by Congress in 1999, the framework study will assist planners in evaluating proposals by Congress and others for additions to the park system, historic trails, and heritage areas. The report is available through the National Register of Historic Places, 1849 C Street, NW, NC 400, Washington, DC 20240.

For more information contact John Sprinkle at 202/343-8166, email: john_sprinkle@nps.gov.

Archeology at the Banneker Homestead

The Maryland Historical Trust Press announces the release of a new publication on the archeology and history of Benjamin Banneker and the African American experience in Maryland, *The Discovery and Archeological Investigation of the Benjamin Banneker Homestead (18BA282), Baltimore County, Maryland* by Robert J. Hurry.

Archeological discoveries reveal tangible evidence of Banneker's homestead and yield new insights into the life and times of this important figure.

Copies of the publication may be attained by contacting Bernadette Pruitt of the Maryland Historical Trust at 410/514-7650, or by email, Pruitt@dhcd.state.md.us. Order may be placed online by visiting the Maryland Historic Trust's website at www.marylandhistorictrust.net, under "MHT Press."

Conferences

Reclaiming the Legacy: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in United States History

The National Archives and Records Administration-Pacific Region held the conference on Asian Pacific American Heritage on May 4, 2002, at the University of San Francisco, Lone Mountain Conference Center. Tours included Angel Island Immigration Station, the Chinese Historical Society of America Museum, National Archives and Records Administration, and the National Japanese American Historical Society.

For more information, contact the National Archives and Records Administration-Pacific Region at 650/876-9249.

Mosaic In Motion 2002: Connecting People of Color to America's National Parks

On July 7-10, 2002, National Parks Conservation Association, in conjunction with Georgia-Pacific Corporation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Home Depot, National Park Service, Pitney Bowes Inc., and the Wilderness Society will hold a three-day conference. The conference will address the issue of the underrepresentation of people of color as visitors to national parks, subjects of interpretation, employees, and contractors. This third Mosaic conference will feature Congressman John Lewis as keynote speaker. It will be held at the Evergreen Conference Center in Stone Mountain, Georgia.

For conference program and sponsorship information, visit the website at www.npca.org or call Alicia Seyler at 202/223-6722.

The Association of African American Museums Conference

On August 21-25, 2002, the

Association of African American Museums will hold its annual conference in Washington, DC. The host organization will be the Smithsonian Institution's Anacostia Museum and Center for African American History and Culture.

For more information, contact the Association of African American Museums, c/o William Billingsley at 937/376-4944, or wbillingsley@ohiohistory.org, Association of African American Museums, P.O. Box 427, Wilberforce, OH 45384.

Fourth Annual Graduate Student Conference in African American History

The Fourth Annual Graduate Student Conference in African American History will be held October 18-20, 2002, at the University of Memphis. Graduate students are invited to submit a curriculum vita and one-page abstract on any topic in African American history by June 1, 2001. Participants will be notified of acceptance of their abstract by July 1, 2002; completed papers must be received no later than August 31, 2002 to secure program placement.

Information is available at <http://www.people.memphis.edu/~history>, email the program committee at AfAmHistConf@yahoo.com. Submissions may be sent to: Program Committee, Graduate Student Conference in African American History, 100 Mitchell Hall, Department of History, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN 38152.

Research

African Americans and the Struggle to Claim Space in the United States.

Given the recent research on place-making and attempts to claim space, a collection of essays relating to the African American experience is being edited. Among other topics, this collection will address the establishment of historically black colleges and the creation of autonomous black communities in New York City. Anyone interested in

or engaged in research exploring black institution building, place-making, or other attempts to claim public space, should contact Leslie Alexander at alexander.282@osu.edu, or Angel David Nieves at angel.nieves@colorado.edu.

Notices

New Website for University of Maryland's Center for Heritage Resource Studies

The Center for Heritage Resource Studies at the University of Maryland—College Park has a new website. Founded in December 2000, the Center was established to bring together scholars and practitioners to support a comprehensive approach to the study of heritage. The Center's new website can be found at www.heritage.umd.edu.

New Location for OPEI/African Burial Ground Project

Due to the destruction of its offices near the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, the General Service Administration's Office of Public Education and Interpretation (OPEI), African Burial Ground Project, has moved.

The new address is 201 Varick Street, Rm. 1021, New York, NY 10014. Office hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00p.m. daily. OPEI, which administers the African Burial Ground Project, has resumed tours of the Burial Ground site.

For more information, contact Sherrill D. Wilson at 212/432-5707, email: nyabg@worldnet.att.net.

HERITAGE

HERITAGE MATTERS

JUNE 2002



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Fran P. Mainella
Director

Katherine H. Stevenson
*Associate Director,
Cultural Resource
Stewardship and
Partnerships*

John Robbins
*Assistant Director,
Cultural Resources*

Antoinette J. Lee
Special Projects Manager

Brian D. Joyner
Heritage Matters Editor



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Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service is dedicated to conserving unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and the values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations. The Service also cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Heritage Matters, sponsored by the Cultural Resources Programs of the National Park Service, is published twice-a-year and is free of charge. Readers are invited to submit short articles and notices for inclusion. (Limit submissions to fewer than 600 words and include author's name and affiliation. Black and white photographs or slides are welcome.) Please submit newsletter items in writing or electronically to: Brian D. Joyner, Editor, Heritage Matters, DOI/National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Suite NC-350, Washington, DC 20240. Phone: 202/343-1000, email: brian_joyner@nps.gov.

Visit the Web site for the NPS Cultural Resources Diversity Initiative:
www.cr.nps.gov/crdi